

land exchanges among willing sellers and willing buyers at Cascade Reservoir in Idaho. Several agricultural easements were reserved within 300 feet of the reservoir at the time the Bureau of Reclamation acquired lands for the reservoir. Now the easement holders and reclamation would like to exchange these easements for other Federal lands in the area. The exchanges would help the parties improve and maintain water quality in the reservoir. All parties have agreed to the exchange.

Mr. Speaker, I urge an "aye" vote on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As the gentleman points out, this allows for land exchange around the Cascade Reservoir north of Boise, Idaho. We have no objections to the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1778.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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CONVEYING CERTAIN LAND IN WYOMING

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 610) to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management in Washakie County and Big Horn County, Wyoming, to the Westside Irrigation District, Wyoming, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 610

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CONVEYANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—On completion of an environmental analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the Bureau of Land Management (referred to in this Act as the "Secretary"), shall convey to the Westside Irrigation District, Wyoming (referred to in this Act as "Westside"), all right, title, and interest (excluding the mineral interest) of the United States in and to such portions of the Federal land in Big Horn County and Washakie County, Wyoming, described in subsection (c), as the district enters into an agreement with the Secretary to purchase.

(b) PRICE.—The price of the land conveyed under subsection (a) shall be equal to the appraised value of the land, as determined by the Secretary.

(c) LAND DESCRIPTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The land referred to in subsection (a) is the approximately 16,500

acres of land in Big Horn County and Washakie County, Wyoming, as depicted on the map entitled "Westside Project" and dated May 9, 2000.

(2) ADJUSTMENT.—On agreement of the Secretary and Westside, acreage may be added to or subtracted from the land to be conveyed as necessary to satisfy any mitigation requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

(d) USE OF PROCEEDS.—Proceeds of the sale of land under subsection (a) shall be deposited in a special account in the Treasury of the United States and shall be available to the Secretary of the Interior, without further Act of appropriation, for the acquisition of land and interests in land in the Worland District of the Bureau of Land Management in the State of Wyoming that will benefit public recreation, public access, fish and wildlife habitat, or cultural resources.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of S. 610, a bill to direct the conveyance of certain BLM lands to the Westside Irrigation District of Wyoming.

Mr. Speaker, S. 610 directs the Secretary of the Interior to convey roughly 37,000 acres of land under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management in Washakie County and Big Horn County, Wyoming, to the Westside Irrigation District.

In turn, Westside Irrigation District will irrigate these lands and sell them as farmland parcels. Proceeds raised from the land sales will be given to the Secretary of the Interior for the acquisition of the land in the Worland District of the Bureau of Land Management, for the purpose of benefiting public recreation, increasing public access, enhancing fish and wildlife habitat, and improving cultural resources.

In recent years, expanded residential development in Washakie and Big Horn Counties has resulted in key loss to the economy: farmland. This legislation will afford communities an opportunity to retain their economic vitality, while protecting cultural and natural resources and the environment.

I would personally like to congratulate everyone who worked so diligently on this measure. I believe it is a job well done between the Federal agencies of the State and individual landholders. I ask my colleagues to support S. 610.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As the gentleman has explained, this is an exchange of land or the direct sale of land in Wyoming, and while the administration is concerned that not all of the lands have been identified, we have no objections to the bill at this time, and we urge its passage.

S. 610 (Enzi) is a Senate passed measure that directs the sale of 16,500 acres of public land in Wyoming to the Westside Irrigation District. Mineral estate would remain with the United States.

District required to pay fair market value for the lands.

Prior to any sale there has to be completed an environmental analysis under NEPA.

Bill allows the Secretary and the District to add or subtract lands if necessary to satisfy the mitigation requirements of the NEPA analysis.

Administration had raised a number of concerns with the bill as introduced. While the bill was amended in the Senate to address some of these concerns, the Administration still does not support passage.

Administration concerned that they are required to sell lands that had not been identified for disposal. The lands contain significant paleontological resources and provide important wildlife habitat.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 610.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□

EXCHANGING CERTAIN LANDS IN WYOMING

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1030) to provide that the conveyance by the Bureau of Land Management of the surface estate to certain land in the State of Wyoming in exchange for certain private land will not result in the removal of the land from operation of the mining laws.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1030

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. 60 BAR LAND EXCHANGE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Sections 2201.1-2(d) and 2091.3-2(c) of title 43 Code of Federal Regulations, shall not apply in the case of the conveyance by the Secretary of the Interior of the land described in subsection (b) in exchange for approximately 9,480 acres of land in Campbell County, Wyoming, pursuant to the terms of the Cow Creek/60 Bar land exchange, WYW-143315.

(b) LAND DESCRIPTION.—The land described in this subsection comprises the following land in Campbell and Johnson Counties, Wyoming:

(1) Approximately 2,960 acres of land in the tract known as the "Bill Barlow Ranch";

(2) Approximately 2,315 acres of land in the tract known as the "T-Chair Ranch";

(3) Approximately 3,948 acres of land in the tract known as the "Bob Christensen Ranch";

(4) Approximately 11,609 acres of land in the tract known as the "John Christensen Ranch".

(c) SEGREGATION FROM ENTRY.—Land acquired by the United States in the exchange under subsection (a) shall be segregated from entry under the mining laws until appropriate land use planning is completed for the land.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 1030, a land exchange bill introduced by Senator ENZI of Wyoming.

This bill exchanges 9,480 acres of private land for approximately 20,000 acres of Federal land managed by the Bureau of Land Management. It is an equal-value exchange. Currently, over 17,000 acres of the public land identified for exchange are completely inaccessible to the public because of surrounding private lands. After the exchange, the resulting block of public land will consist of over 18,660 acres, accessible from a paved highway and located very close to Gillette, Wyoming. The land which will be acquired by the BLM is scenic, recreational land, containing timber, rugged topography, and excellent wildlife habitat.

I would note this land exchange involves the transfer of surface interests only; no mineral interests are involved in the exchange. The BLM will reserve all minerals. The amendment adopted by the Senate at the urging of the administration makes clear that while a land-use plan amendment is prepared for the new Federal surface estate to be acquired, the mineral estate beneath it is segregated from the operation of the mining law.

Passage of this legislation will permit the land exchange to go forward. As a result, it will be a lasting benefit to the citizens of Wyoming and the Federal Government. I urge my colleagues to support S. 1030.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, S. 1030, introduced by Senator MIKE ENZI of Wyoming, would require certain lands acquired through exchange in Gillette, Wyoming, to be segregated from entry under the mining laws until appropriate land-use planning is completed for the land. This provision is necessary to override existing laws that would otherwise require the land to be opened up to mining 90 days after the completion of this exchange.

The administration is in support of this legislation. We have no problems.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1030.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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CONVEYING CERTAIN LAND IN POWELL, WYOMING

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 2069) to permit the conveyance of certain land in Powell, Wyoming.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 2069

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ELIMINATION OF PUBLIC PURPOSE CONDITION.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the parcel of land described in subsection (c) was patented to the town (now City) of Powell, Wyoming, by the United States General Land Office on October 17, 1934, to help establish a town near the Shoshone Irrigation Project;

(2) the land was patented with the condition that it be used forever for a public purpose, as required by section 3 of the Act of April 16, 1906 (43 U.S.C. 566);

(3) the land has been used to house the Powell Volunteer Fire Department, which serves the firefighting and rescue needs of a 577 square mile area in northwestern Wyoming;

(4) the land is located at the corner of U.S. Highway 14 and the main street of the business district of the City;

(5) because of the high traffic flow in the area, the location is no longer safe for the public or for the fire department;

(6) in response to population growth in the area and to National Fire Protection Association regulations, the fire department has purchased new firefighting equipment that is much larger than the existing fire hall can accommodate;

(7) accordingly, the fire department must construct a new fire department facility at a new and safe location;

(8) in order to relocate and construct a new facility, the City must sell the land to assist in financing the new fire department facility; and

(9) the Secretary of the Interior concurs that it is in the public interest to eliminate the public purpose condition to enable the land to be sold for that purpose.

(b) ELIMINATION OF CONDITION.—

(1) WAIVER.—The condition stated in section 3 of the Act of April 16, 1906 (43 U.S.C. 566), that land conveyed under that Act be used forever for a public purpose is waived insofar as the condition applies to the land described in subsection (c).

(2) INSTRUMENTS.—The Secretary of the Interior shall execute and cause to be recorded in the appropriate land records any instruments necessary to evidence the waiver made by paragraph (1).

(c) LAND DESCRIPTION.—The parcel of land described in this subsection is a parcel of land located in Powell, Park County, Wyoming, the legal description of which is as follows:

Lot 23, Block 54, in the original town of Powell, according to the plat recorded in Book 82 of plats, Page 252, according to the

records of the County Clerk and Recorder of Park County, State of Wyoming.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG).

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 2069, a bill to permit the conveyance of land in which the fire station in Powell, Wyoming, is located. This bill is necessary because the existing patent contains a requirement that does not allow the city to sell this land and use the proceeds to move the volunteer station to a better, safer location.

The current fire estimation is too small to hold the fire department's new equipment and is located at Powell's busiest intersection. This situation has created a safety issue for both people traveling through Powell, and for the fire department when it goes out on calls. On numerous occasions, the fire department has been caught in traffic and was unable to respond quickly to calls.

This land was originally deeded to the Powell township by the Bureau of Reclamation in 1934 with the stipulation that the land be used in perpetuity for public purposes.

Mr. Speaker, S. 2069 will waive this condition of the patent, thereby allowing the land to be sold and proceeds used to purchase a lot in a better location to serve the needs of the community.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

We do not know what bill this is. The gentleman has explained it. It is not on the calendar that I can see.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Alaska (Mr. YOUNG) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 2069.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

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CONVEYING CERTAIN LAND TO PARK COUNTY, WYOMING

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1894) to provide for the conveyance of certain land to Park County, Wyoming.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1894

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,